(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Home Affairs has sent a proposal to the Ministry of Defence expressing its willingness to handover monitoring the coastal line of the Country to Coast Guards;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal of the Ministry of Home Affairs;

(c) whether any consultations have been made in this regard between the two Ministries; and

(d) if so, the outcome of the consultations?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Ministry of Home Affairs has sent a proposal for strengthening of the Coast Guard for creating additional capabilities to enable it to take over the responsibility of joint coastal patrolling of Gujarat and Maharashtra coast. The proposal involves establishing Coast Guard stations and acquisition of Interceptors boats. The proposal is presently under examination of Ministry of Defence.

Indigenously produced torpedo

4198. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:
SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has completed successful trials on the first indigenously produced torpedo; and

(b) does the Indian torpedo place us in any advantage *vis-a-vis* Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir. Advanced light weight torpedo has been successfully developed by DRDO, through indigenous efforts and it has been evaluated by the Indian Navy. The pre-production units have been realised by Bharat Dynamic Ltd.

(b) Being the state-of-the-art torpedo, Indian Navy will have definite advantage on deployment.

Ban on MIG flights over residential areas

†4199. SHRI D.P. YADAV: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

†Orginal notice of the question was received in Hindi.